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<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/667,162	FRESNEL, ERIC	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Stephen F. Gerrity	3721	

-- **The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1.  This communication is responsive to the amendment filed 10 January 2005.
2.  The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-21.
3.  The drawings filed on 10 January 2005 are accepted by the Examiner.
4.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a)  All    b)  Some\*    c)  None    of the:
    1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5.  A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6.  CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a)  including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1)  hereto or 2)  to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b)  including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7.  DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1.  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2.  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3.  Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4.  Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5.  Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6.  Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7.  Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8.  Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9.  Other \_\_\_\_\_.

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**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

***In the specification:***

Page 5, rewrite paragraph [0040] as follows:

[0040] ~~Figure 5 is~~ Figures 5a-5d are a diagram showing the steps in the heat-shrinking method implemented by the machine shown in the drawings, starting from placing a unit article with a sleeve engaged on said article and going to removal of said article coated in its shrunk-on sleeve; and

***In the claims:***

Rewrite claims 10 and 19 as follows:

10. A heat-shrink machine for heat-shrinking sleeves made from a film of heat-shrink plastic material onto an article, the machine comprising:

a stationary machine structure;

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a shrinkage chamber having a temperature range, the shrinkage chamber being mounted to the stationary machine structure;

a pre-heater chamber surmounting the shrinkage chamber;

an article support mounted to move at a travel speed relative to the stationary structure along a vertical axis between a low position for installing or removing the article, and a high position in which the article is fully contained in the pre-heater chamber for a period of time; and

a controller to control the temperature range of the shrinkage chamber, the travel speed of the support, and the period of time.

19. A machine according to claim 16, including an elevator secured to the article support which is mounted to be capable also of revolving about its own central vertical axis and to a first motor for causing the article support to revolve at a rotational speed around the vertical axis, and a second motor actuating said the elevator in order to cause the article support to move vertically axially, and wherein the controller of the machine is connected to the first and second motors and to the hot air blower assembly associated with the annular

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shrinkage chamber in order to govern the temperature range of the shrinkage chamber, the travel speed of the support along the vertical axis, the rotational speed of the support around the vertical axis, and the period of time.

***Explanation for Examiner's Amendment***

3. The specification has been amended to provide a brief drawing description for each of figures 5a-5d.
4. Claims 10 and 19 have been amended to correct editorial and idiomatic errors.

***Conclusion***

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stephen F. Gerrity whose telephone number is (571) 272-4460. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 5:30 - 2:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rinaldi Rada can be reached on (571) 272-4467. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Stephen F. Gerrity  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3721

16 March 2005